

**OPINION 2207 (Case 3337)*****Hydroporus discretus* Fairmaire & Brisout de Barneville, 1859  
(Insecta, Coleoptera): specific name conserved**

**Abstract.** The Commission has ruled that the specific name *Hydroporus discretus* Fairmaire & Brisout de Barneville, 1859 is conserved for a common species of water beetle by suppression of the senior synonym *Hydroporus neuter* Fairmaire & Laboulbène, 1855.

**Keywords.** Nomenclature; taxonomy; Coleoptera; DYTISCIDAE; *Hydroporus neuter*; *Hydroporus discretus*; diving beetle; Europe; Palaearctic.

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**Ruling**

- (1) Under the plenary power it is hereby ruled that:
  - (a) Opinion 2065 is rescinded;
  - (b) The name *neuter* Fairmaire & Laboulbène, 1855, as published in the binomen *Hydroporus neuter*, is suppressed for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy.
- (2) The name *discretus* Fairmaire & Brisout de Barneville, 1859, as published in the binomen *Hydroporus discretus*, is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.
- (3) The entry for *Hydroporus neuter* Fairmaire & Laboulbène, 1855 is deleted from the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.
- (4) The name *neuter* Fairmaire & Laboulbène, 1855, as published in the binomen *Hydroporus neuter* and as suppressed in (1)(b) above, is placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology.

**History of Case 3337**

An application to conserve the usage of the specific name *Hydroporus discretus* Fairmaire & Brisout de Barneville, 1859 (Insecta, Coleoptera) was received from Manfred A. Jäch (*Naturhistorisches Museum Wien, Vienna, Austria*), Hans Fery (*Berlin, Germany*), A.N. Nilsson (*Umeå University, Sweden*), Pyotr N. Petrov (*Gymnasium 1543, Moscow, Russia*) and Ignacio Ribera (*Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales, Madrid, Spain*) on 11 November 2004. This species is a widely distributed diving beetle known from 40 countries from Ireland to China and is especially common in western, central and northern Europe. The application follows on a previous application, published as Case 3147 (BZN 58: 105–107), which unsuccessfully petitioned for conservation of this same name through suppression of its senior synonym *Hydroporus neuter* Fairmaire & Laboulbène, 1855. Opinion 2065 (BZN 61: 60) reported that the Commissioners thought that Case 3147 had not provided sufficient evidence to warrant suppression of a senior synonym. Case 3337 redressed this lack of appropriate references with a list of 521 publications in which *Hydroporus discretus* was treated as valid and a list of names of 109 water beetle experts from 28 countries who lent their support to this application. After correspondence the case

was published in BZN 64(2): 87–89 (June 2007). The title, abstract and keywords of the case were published on the Commission's website. Six supportive comments were published in BZN 64(2): 120–121.

### Decision of the Commission

On 1 March 2008 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 64: 88–89. At the close of the voting period on 1 June 2008 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes – 17: Bogutskaya, Bouchet, Brothers, Fautin, Grygier, Halliday, Kottelat, Kullander, Krell, Lamas, Mawatari, Pape, Papp, Rosenberg, Štys, van Tol and Zhang.

Negative votes – none.

No votes were received from Lim. Alonso-Zarazaga, Minelli, Ng, Patterson and Pyle were on leave of absence.

Voting for the proposals, Halliday added that it should be noted that we do not approve of deliberate manipulation of usage as described in paragraph 5. Further, this manipulation of usage is unnecessary, since the listing of a name as a synonym in a catalogue does not constitute usage under Article 23.9.6. In omitting this synonym the author has needlessly damaged the taxonomic value of his work in order to achieve a nomenclatural objective. Bouchet, who had voted against in the first voting rounds and submitted a negative comment on Case 3147, wrote in response to Case 3337 that it was now overwhelmingly convincing. Kullander also said that support for this proposal was overwhelming.

### Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on Official Lists by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

*discretus*, *Hydroporus*, Fairmaire & Brisout de Barneville 1859, *Annales de la Société Entomologique de France*, (3)7: 28.

*neuter*, *Hydroporus*, Fairmaire & Laboulbène, 1855, *Faune entomologique française ou description des insectes qui se trouvent en France, coléoptères*, vol. 1, p. 205.